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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

MARCH 31st, 1977, ISSUE No. 11

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Difference Between Just Fishing and Catching Fish!

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About the Cover—
Captain John DeMaio of the Montauk charterboat "Vivienne" swings a nice bass into the box. That's L.I.F. managing editor Scott S. leaning over the side—fighting a fish, not barfing as some a few of the fellow L.I.F. workers have suggested. Photo by Dr. W. Muller

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The LONG ISLAND FISHERMAN is published weekly, except for two weeks in December by the L.I.F. Publishing Corp., L.I.F. Building, Bridge St., P.O. Box 1994, Sag Harbor, N.Y. 11963. Telephone 516-725-4200. Second class postage is paid at Sag Harbor. 35 cents a copy; 1 year, 50 issues, $9.00; 2 years, 100 issues, $17.00; 3 years, 150 issues, $25.00. Back issues are sold for 50 cents a copy. Photographs and written contributions are welcomed. Unsolicited contributions must be accompanied by a written request and a stamped self-addressed envelope. All consideration will be given these requests, however, no responsibility on our part is assumed. Notice of change of address must include both the old and new address. Allow two weeks for the change.

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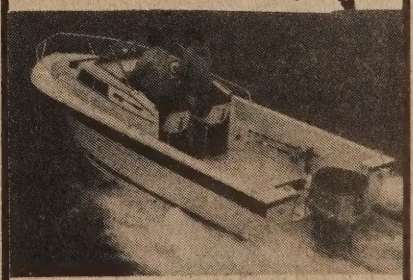

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CLUB NEWS

WHITE FAWN HUNTING AND FISHING CLUB

The White Fawn Hunting and Fishing Club Inc., of Hudson County held election of Officers for 1977 on Sunday, Feb. 27th, 1977.

President—Charles Olsen; Vice President—Henry Olkowski; Secretary—John Sickle; Treasurer and Financial Sec'y—Jim Cerullo; Publicity—Dave Knight; Historian—Bill Reisen and Sg't. at Arms—Anthony Mignoli.

The club is celebrating it's 45th anniversary on March 26th by having a vennison dinner and dance at the Club Monty, 6th and Bergenline Avenue, Union City at 8 P.M. We have a membership of 42 active members with a full program of fishing trips to various places including Montauk Point, Charter Triton II, Gloucester Mass, Quincy Mass., Cape May N.J. etc., and Sheepshead Bay.

OPEN HOUSE BY "SALTY" FLYRODDERS

The secrets of Fly Casting will be revealed at the next open house meeting of the "SALTY" FLYRODDERS OF N.Y. to be held on April 4th in the lower hall of the Grace Lutheran Church, 31-20 21st Avenue, Astoria, N.Y., at 8:00 P.M.

LOU ROSSI will start the program with a presentation on the little known techniques of fighting big fish on ultralight tackle and a preliminary demonstration of fly casting. This will be followed by a 20-minute film from the Federation of Fly Fishermen library featuring Jim Green showing the proper way to cast a fly.

The well known fly tyer BOB SATER will be in our fly tying corner dressing the shrimp fly.

The public is invited to attend.

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Pass It On...

TOWN OFFERS FISHING CLINIC

The Town of Hempstead Department of Parks and Recreation will once again offer all Town residents an opportunity to become better anglers this spring by offering a four-lesson fishing clinic. The clinic is open to Town residents of any age.

The instructor will teach the basic techniques and finer points of various types of fishing, including fresh water fishing, and in particular the types of fishing pertinent to the Long Island area. Basic fishing equipment, rigs and tackle, advanced techniques, and local salt water species are among the items to be discussed.

The course, to be given on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, April 19th, 20th, 26th, and 27th, will be conducted by a representative of the Shakespeare Company, Fishing Division. All classes will be held at the Hempstead Town Hall Pavilion beginning at 8 P.M. each night. Register the first night of the class.

Hempstead Town Hall Pavilion is located at the corner of Peninsula Blvd, and Washington Street in the Village of Hempstead.

EVINRUDE RELEASES NEW FISHING FILM

Evinrude Motors, outboard manufacturer, announces the addition of an exciting new shark fishing film, "The Boat, The Engine, The Shark" to their free loan film library.

The 22 minute, 16 mm color-sound film was produced in cooperation with Mako Boats and Walkers Cay and features internationally known saltwater fishing writers including Rip Cunningham, Al Ristori, Bill Munro and Gil Drake, as well as Jack Casey, world leading authority on shark tagging from the Narragansett Sports Fishing Marine Laboratory and world renowned artist of

underwater scenes, George Schelling.

This educational, interesting film was authentically produced in Walkers Cay to point out the fact that large, offshore outboard-powered boats are capable of taking fishermen safely in these abundant fishing grounds, as well as to note the importance of catching, tagging and releasing sharks not only for the sport but for fisheries research as well.

The film includes suberb photography of the shark in its underwater world by Gil Drake. Overall film production was handled by Guy de la Valdene of U.Y.A. Films, Palm Beach Fla.

"The Boat, The Engine, The Shark" is available on a free loan basis for group showing from Solana Studios, 4365 North 27th St., Milwaukee, Wis. 52316.

HEINE MARINE SEMINARS

Heine Marine, where marine electronics are explained, installed and loved, invites all boat owners and their crews to free daily and evening seminars. Here's your chance to ask an expert which electronics are best for your boat. Equipment will be on display, much of it working. Things like VHF radio telephones and depth indicators for inshore sailors and single sideband, Loran, autopilots, radar, and fish finders for offshore cruisers and sport fishermen.

Heine Marine's next day or evening with THE expert is Monday through Wednesday, 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., Thursday and Friday, 9 to 9, Saturday 9 to 5, and Sunday 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Refreshments will be served (coffee) and you will receive free copies of any brochures that strike your fancy. Seating is limited (there are only two stools at the counter), so R.S.V.P. (516) 581-0194. Heine Marine is easily reached at 250 Montauk Highway, Islip, located less than a mile west of Rte. 111.

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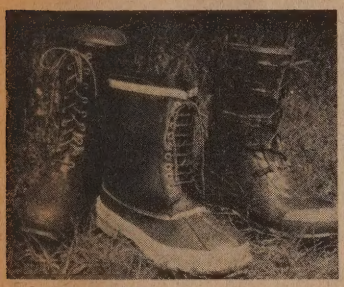

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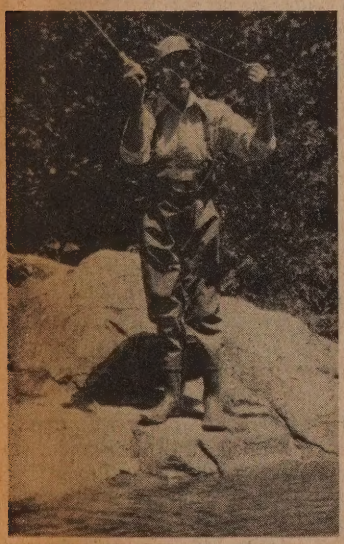

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Old Knuckle Busters

by E. H. Glasshagel

Recently the Editor of the Long Island Fisherman forwarded a letter to my desk regarding data on some old multiplier reels that a reader found in his garage in Brooklyn. Yes, back in 1857 on Fulton Street in Brooklyn, Julius vom Hofe crafted the first reels for the salt water fishermen, and later with his brother Edward, developed the star drag in 1902. The vom Hofe "Universal Star," No. 621 in that time listed at $57.50 for a 2/0 to $75.00 for a 9/0. The vom Hofes were also the first reel makers to utilize hard rubber for end plates to cut down the weight as brass in larger reels was very heavy and costly. Many readers have reels bearing company names of "Abbey & Imbrie," Wm. Mills & Son's, Conroy, Bisset & Malleson which have such end plates and refer to them as having "plastic" plates.

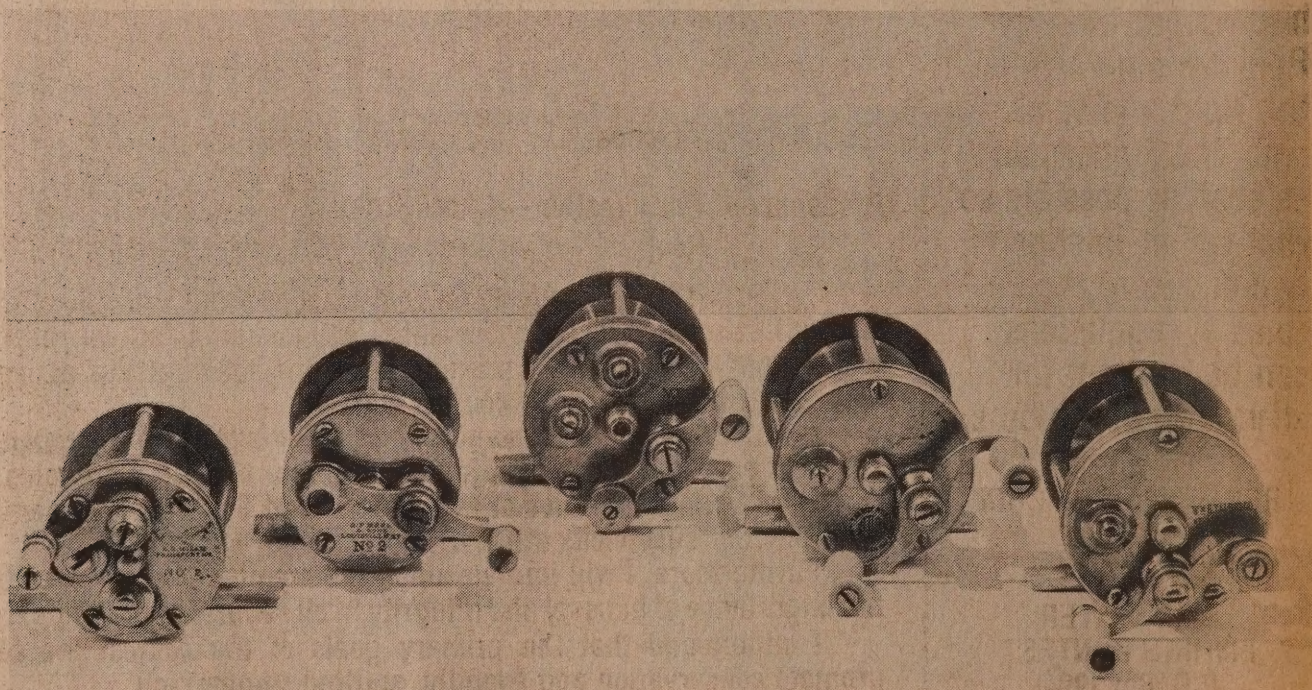
Time and again I receive telephone calls requesting present value and data on the old knuckle busters as very few libraries have any reference materials available if any, and any reader desiring such data can obtain almost everything from the following two (2) listed books: "Great Fishing Tackle Catalogs of the Golden Age" edited by Samuel Melner and Hermann Kessler from Crown Publishers, Inc., 419 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016 for $6.95 containing 344 pages of data and "Book of the Black Bass" edited by James A. Henshall, M.D. that was reproduced by Bass Anglers Sportsman Society, P.O. Box 3044, Montgomery, Ala. 36109 for $7.95 and contains 462 pages of data on both fresh and salt water.

For the curious angler who desires to view a nice display of knuckle busters, George Combs Jr. has a beautiful set-up at his place of business; 74 Merrick Road, Amityville, N.Y. Just a reminder though, George does not sell antiques but is in the bait and tackle business.

Many old wooden reels are now making their appearance at flea markets etc., with price tags of $25 and up, but before you make such a purchase it should be in "perfect" condition and not missing screws, etc., as old tackle collectors operate the same as coin collectors and dealers as "condition" is the determining factor just how much a old piece of tackle is worth.

For the reader who desires to invest the following two (2) listed concerns will gladly send you a free listing of their "Historic" tackle they have for purchase. 1. Martin J. Keane, Mine Hill Road, Bridgewater, Conn. 06752 and 2. Len Codella's, 5 Wood Avenue So., Linden, N.J. 07036.

Just a reminder for the serious fisherman who tries to use some of these old reels, they were made ONLY for braided line and monofilament will twist and damage the spool of one of the "Old timers."

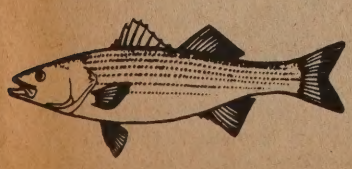


FISHING CLUB CONTEST!

The Fisherman is starting a new Salt Water Fishing Contest for fishing clubs that like to compete with others both in and out of their state. Clubs that wish to participate in this new contest must appoint an Official Representative for their club and have him fill out the Registration Form on the right and send it to The Fisherman as soon as possible so that weigh-in slips and copies of the rules & regulations can be sent out for all your club members.

Fill out the REGISTRATION FORM and send to:

The Fisherman
SALT WATER
FISHING CONTEST
P.O. Box 1994
Sag Harbor, N.Y. 11963



The FISHERMAN

Salt Water ☆ FISHING CONTEST ☆

REGISTRATION FORM

Name of Club .....
Address .....
City ..... State ..... Zip .....

Official Club Representative for the Contest:

Name .....
Address .....
City ..... State ..... Zip .....
Telephone No. .....

Club Roster Attached: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Predominent Participation—Check One:
☐ Boat ☐ Surf ☐ Both Equally

I will read all the contest rules, instructions and recommendations. When I understand them fully I will communicate all rules, instructions and releasing procedures to the membership of my club, in writing, before the contest starts.

I will discuss all relevant information with club members during a general membership meeting before the contest begins.

I will uphold the rules of the contest, and I will not enter any fraudulent or suspicious affidavits on behalf of my club.

Furthermore, I will impress upon the membership of my club the importance of honesty and integrity in all aspects of the contest.

I understand that the primary goals of the contest are to promote conservation and friendly, spirited competition.

....
Signature of Club Rep. Notary Public

....
Date Date

Surf Side

with Bill Ricca

Early North Shore Striped Bass

Early spring is a good time for bottom fishing for striped bass. Before we go into tackle and techniques, something should be said concerning the habits and movements of these fish.

Striped bass are a migratory fish. In simple terms, with the coming of spring they move north and in fall with the approach of cold weather they will head south.

Most of our east coast striped bass population spend their winters in the Chesapeake Bay, James, Delaware, Hudson and Connecticut Rivers. In addition, a very large body of really big fish winter over off the Outer Banks of North Carolina.

Due to our proximity to the Hudson River I will base this article on those fish which spend their winters in this waterway and move into Long Island Sound each spring.

To begin with, a vast majority of all the L.I. Sound striped bass winter over in the Hudson River. (Atomic Energy Environmental Report 1972.)

During this winter over period the striped bass are in a state of hibernation. With the coming of spring the water temperature rises. When it reaches fifty-two degrees (52°) the striped bass become active, spawn and begin to leave their protected Hudson River grounds. Most of these fish travel northeast through Long Island Sound up the Connecticut and Rhode Island Coasts to their summer grounds off Massachusetts.

This migration usually begins in early April. This could vary a few weeks depending upon how severe the winter and early spring temperatures have been. First to leave are the smaller fish, followed some weeks later by the larger "cows." Upon entering Long Island Sound, many fish will stop over in Little Neck and Manhasset Bays, Hempstead Harbor and the area around Centre Island Reef.

At this time of year, due to the lack of bait fish (with the possible exception of some mackerel and bunker in late April and early May), bass will feed primarily on sea worms, clams and crabs. The north shore of Long Island is ideally suited for striped bass. Its rocky bottom and irregular shoreline with its numerous bays and coves offer ideal places for the bass to forage and grub among the rocks for food.

It is at this time of year that bottom fishing for striped bass is the order of the day.

For this type of fishing since long casts are not necessary, I have found that a medium action seven to nine foot spinning outfit loaded with fifteen (15) pound test line is best. Your terminal tackle should consist of a fishfinder rig, 2 or 3 oz. sinker, armed with a single 3-0 or 4-0 hook. Above the hook (about 3") we attach a 3" to 4" cylinderical cork. For bait we use two large sand or blood worms, the first of which should be impaled through its head and threaded all the way up the shank of the hook to the cork float. You should allow about ¼ of the worm to hang loose. The second worm should be attached in a similar manner, except it should be threaded up the hook until it meets the first worm. In this manner, about two-thirds of the second worm is dangling from the hook. Thus, we will present a most natural looking bait.

Probably the most important item with respect to our terminal rig is the cork float. Not any type cork but a 3" to 4" cylinderical type is used. The mono leader (30 lb. test) is threaded through this float. The float is affixed 3" from the hook (see diagram A). This cork should be painted. We quarter our corks vertically with red and white stripes. It was originally thought that the sole purpose of the cork was to keep the bait off the bottom and out of the reach of crabs and other scavenger type fish. However, people began to experiment and found that a red-painted cork seemed to act as an attractor. We took this one step further and found that a red and white painted cork was by far superior.

When fishing the north shore of Long Island, it should be noted that a good part of this shoreline is private property and permission of the owner is necessary in order to fish. However, the entire western shore of Little Neck Bay is open to fishermen. In addition, almost all the town beaches in the Manhasset Bay, Hempstead Harbor, and Centre Island Reef areas are open to fishermen until May 30th. After May 30th, only night fishing is permitted (except Little Neck Bay which is always open.) Prime time for fishing these areas is at night, two hours before and after high water.

It should be pointed out that in most of the locations which I have mentioned fishing at low tide is impossible. These are shallow reefs and bays and, quite frankly, there is very little water left in them during the periods of low water. Therefore, I would suggest checking your tide charts before planning any fishing trips to these areas.

Equipment needed for this type of fishing can be kept to a minimum. All that is needed is a bait box (capable of holding one to two dozen worms), and a small canvas bag that can be slung over your shoulder. This bag can be used to hold some extra hooks, sinkers, a knife, rag, sand spike, a light, and a fish stringer. In addition, you should also bring along a small landing gaff. While most of the fish you will encounter will range from shorts to just a few pounds, occasionally a "teenager" will seize your offering and you'll be glad that you had the forethought to bring along a gaff. It should be pointed out that chest waders are not mandatory with this form of fishing but if you have them I'd suggest taking them along. If you do not own a pair, then wear at least a short pair of rubber boots. Wading is not necessary but just being at the water's edge, you can't help getting your feet wet no matter how careful you are. In April nothing could be more uncomfortable than to be standing around some night waiting for "Old Linesides" with wet feet.

It can get mighty cold in early spring especially at night (which is prime time for bass), so dress accordingly. It's easier to take off that extra sweater or sweat shirt if it's mild, than to suffer if it's cool.

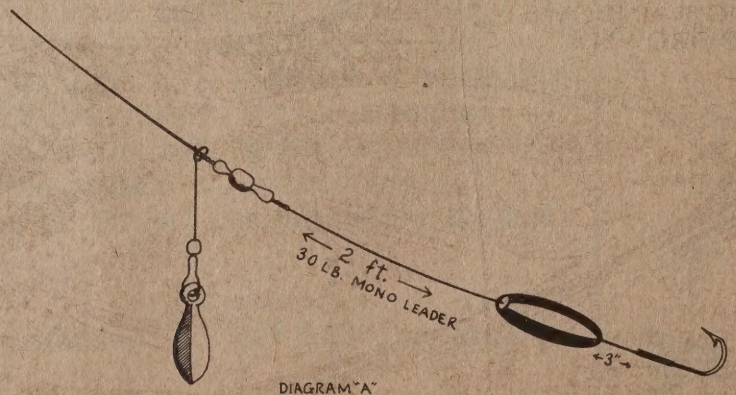


DIAGRAM "A"

FOR THE SOUTH SHORE - USE A PYRAMID SINKER

THE TROUT STREAM

BY FRED GUARDINEER

TROUT STREAMS REPRESENT ALL THAT IS CLEAN, BEAUTIFUL AND UNSPOILED. THE MAIN CHARACTERISTIC IS CLEAN COLD WATER AS BROOK TROUT CANNOT TOLERATE TEMPERATURES ABOVE 65 DEGREES. BROOKIES LIVE IN THE STREAM'S COLD UPPER REACHES. BROWNS AND RAINBOWS ARE LESS DEMANDING DOWNSTREAM BUT PERISH IN WATERS THAT BASS AND SUNFISH FIND IDEAL.

1
CADDIS LARVAE AND AQUATIC NYMPHS - TROUT FOOD - HATCH IN COLD UNPOLLUTED SOURCE OF THE STREAM.
2
WATER FLOWING OVER PEBBLE BOTTOM IS IDEAL SPAWNING AREA FOR BROOK TROUT.
3
ROCKS IN RIFFLES PROVIDE RESTING PLACES FOR FEEDING FISH AND HIDING PLACES FOR STONE-FLY AND MAY-FLY NYMPHS.
4
LARGER TROUT TAKE OVER CHOICE HIDE-AWAYS TO WATCH FOR FOOD.
5
DEEP WATER POOLS PROVIDE COOL SHELTER FOR TROUT AND FLOATING INSECTS FOR FOOD.
6
WATER FALL AERATES WATER AND SUPPLIES OXYGEN.
7
WATER HERE TOO WARM FOR BROOK TROUT - BECOMES LAIR FOR BIG RAINBOWS AND BROWNS
8
BROAD SHALLOW LOWER STREAM UNSUITABLE FOR ANY TROUT AND BECOMES A HOME FOR BASS, PICKEREL, PERCH, SUNNIES, CARP ETC.

In last week's article we went over the various components used to make bottom fishing rigs. This week we are going to learn how to assemble the various components with four basic knots—the snelling knot, improved clinch knot, dropper loop, and the end loop. It is important to remember that virtually **all** knots will weaken monofilament line...you "can-knot" make a knot stronger than the line it is being tied with, so the line will always break at its weakest point—right next to the knot itself. The theory "a chain is only as strong as its weakest link" also applies to monofilament line as well. So the trick is to tie as few knots as possible, making those that must be tied the strongest possible. Before tightening a knot, always wet it with saliva for lubrication. This will allow the knot to tighten up evenly and prevents any binding or looping of the monofilament. It's also very important that a knot is tightened **slowly** by evenly pulling the line or components in two opposite directions. Never try to tighten a knot with a quick, jerky movement or it will bind incorrectly and be very weak. Be careful not to trim a knot too much, or it may unravel when the line is stretched while under pressure. Leave at least an eighth of an inch protruding beyond the knot itself to prevent this.

—TYING RIGS—

Part Two

The first thing you have to do before tying any of the basic bottom rigs is to attach the hook to a snell. A "snell" is another word for the leader connecting the hook to the main leader of the rig. The length of the leader will vary greatly for a number of reasons. Generally, a short, stiff snell is used for fish such as the flounder or blackfish that tend to hug the bottom when feeding. A short snell close to the sinker will insure the angler that his bait is also close to the bottom within the feeding zone of these fish. Longer leaders are usually necessary for fish such as the weakfish that feed higher off the bottom. A longer leader also allows the bait to move naturally with the current over the bottom when drifting with a boat, so they are preferred for fluke fishing.

Hook snelling is somewhat awkward when you are just learning how to do it, but comes easily with a little practice. It will often seem like it is impossible to snell a hook without the use of a third hand, but it is. The one thing to be careful of is hooking yourself when trying to tighten up the snell. Your best bet is to hold the hook with a piers grasping it at the bend, then slowly pulling on the snell until the coils tighten up. You can also put the hook in a small vice or simply hook it around a nail driven into a board. Whatever you do, RESIST the temptation to hold the hook between your teeth while tightening the snell. If you don't know the reason for this advice, then fishing isn't your sport and you'd better try taking up quoits or something—fishing is too dangerous for you!

To begin snelling a hook, take a strand of the 48-inch pre-cut leader material we discussed last week and a hook. Hold the hook in your left hand with the point down towards the ground and the eye facing to the right, grasping the hook at the bend between the thumb and index finger. This is shown in Figure 1, but you'll have to use your imagination a little because the finger positions aren't shown. (What do you want, everything?) Pass the left hand end of the leader material through the eye of the hook twice so that you end up with a loop that has a one-inch diameter and an additional three inches or so of leader material extends through the eye.

Next, move the thumb and index finger of your left hand up on the shank of the hook and hold the loop flat alongside the shank. With your right hand, grasp the 3" piece of leader and begin wrapping it snugly along the shank of the hook, covering the loop as you wrap. Start wrapping from the eye and make your turns toward the bend of the hook.

After you have made six complete turns over the shank and loop, take the end of the line and pass it through the end of the loop. While holding the line against the shank, slowly pull the

FIGURE ONE.

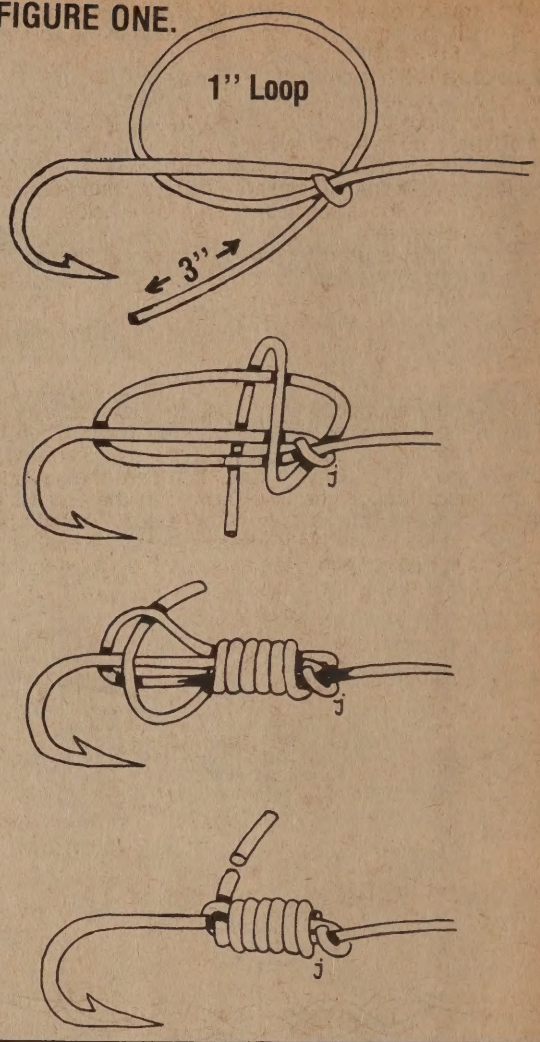
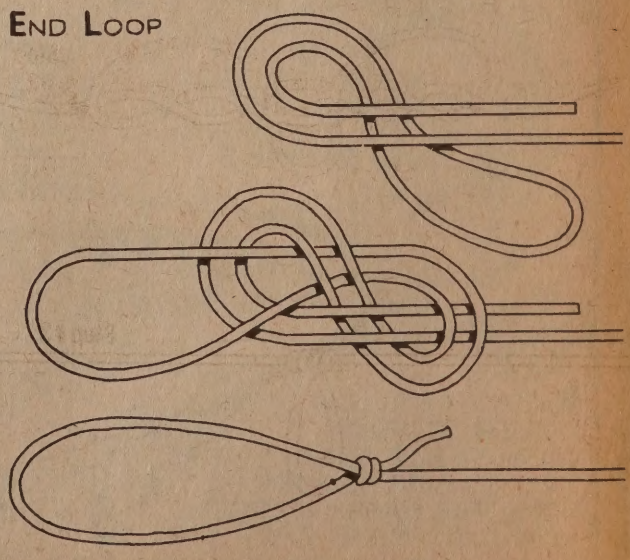


FIGURE TWO.

END LOOP



main leader until the loop tightens up and is snug with the end turn. Now release the hook from your fingers and grasp the bend of the hook with a pair of pliers. Holding the hook with the pliers, grasp the leader and slowly ull, applying increasing pressure until the end of the loop tucks under the turns you have made. If the snell has been tied and tightened properly, it will look like the bottom hook in Figure 1.

Now all you have to do is tie an end loop, as described below, to the opposite end of the hook snell so that you have a means of attaching the snelled hook to the main leader. Make sure the end loop is tied at the correct point to end up with the desired length hook snell. If you aren't sure how long the snell should be for the various species, consult last week's issue and look at the table given.

The END LOOP is used for two purposes: at the end of a hook snell to attach the hook to the leader, which is the main "trunk" of the rig. The snelled hooks are the "branches," while the sinker acts as the "root" of the rig. The sinker is also attached to the rig with an end loop.

To tie an end loop, just follow the diagrams in Figure 2. Double over the line about four inches at the point where you want to tie in the end loop, then grasp the doubled over line with the thumb and index finger of the left hand. Then take the loop with your right hand, pass it behind and around the strands you are holding in your left, then pass the strands in your right hand through the loop formed in the process and slowly pull it taut. This is only complicated when I try to explain it—just follow the diagrams and you'll see how easy it really is. When tied correctly, the end loop should extend from the leader in a straight line. For a hook snell, tie an end loop

FIGURE FOUR.

IMPROVED CLINCH KNOT

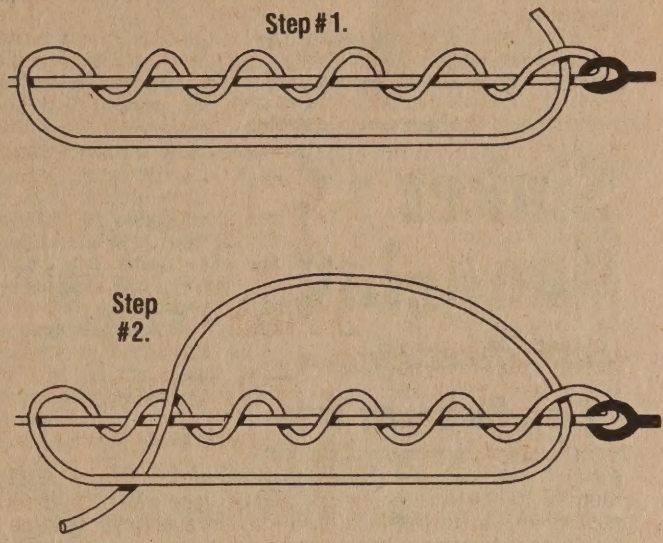
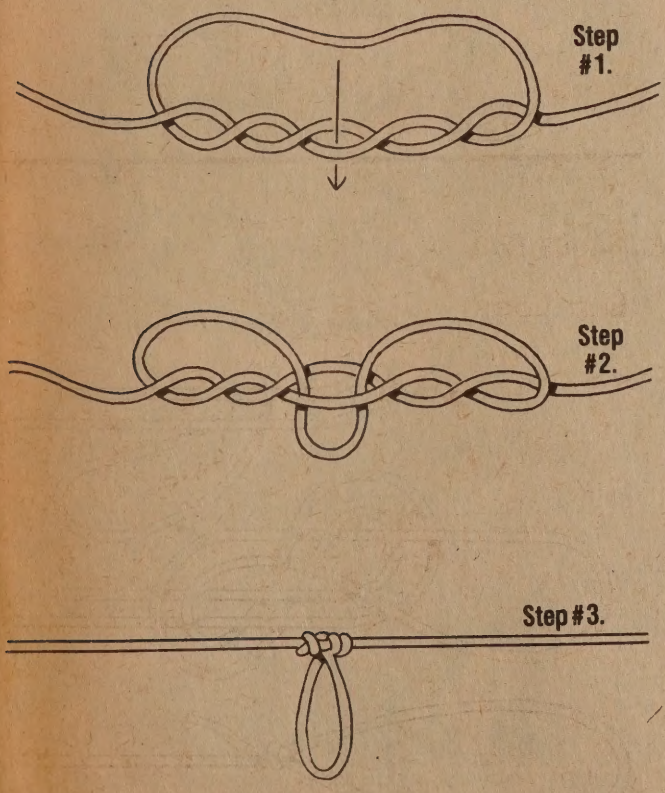


FIGURE THREE.

DROPPER LOOP



with a one-inch diameter. For a sinker, make the end loop with a three-inch diameter. To attach the sinker, pass the loop through the eye of it, drop the sinker through the center of the loop and pull snug.

Hooks are attached to the leader by tying a dropper-loop in the leader wherever you wish a hook to branch out. Form a loop of about three inches in diameter and pass ne end of the line through the loop five or six times. (Step 1 in Figure 3.) Separate the twisted strands in the center and pull the opposite side of the loop through this opening. (Step 2.) Holding the line around both sides of the loop, SLOWLY draw the ends taut so the loop looks like Step 3. The dropper loop should extend straight out from the leader, preventing the hook from becoming entangled. To attach your hook to the dropper loop, simply pass the loop through the end loop of the hook you have snelled. Then pass the hook through the dropper loop and pull taut.

Your main line may be attached to the leader with a small barrel swivel. If you use a barrel swivel, attach it to your leader with an improved clinch knot as shown in the diagram. Pass the end of the leader through one of the eyes of the swivel and twist it around itself five or six times as shown in Step 1 of Figure 4. Then take the end of the line and pass it between the last twist and the eye of the swivel. Pass the end of the line through this new loop you have made, s shown in Step 2. Slowly tighten up the knot until it snugs up against the eye of the barrel swivel. The finished product should look similar to Step 3. When it comes time to use the rig, simply tie another clinch knot with your main line to the second eye of the swivel.

Sinker Bouncing

with Matt Ahern

Fish-Cleaning Tips

One humid afternoon last summer, I spent an enlightening and interesting few minutes at Skippers Fishing Station in Hampton Bays. I figured this would be a good place to cool off and check out the latest fishing news. "Big Mike", the general proprietor of the station, told me fishing was pretty good—which is always nice to hear. But Mike was much too busy to spend time kibitzing with a fishing scribe, and after a pleasant conversation, I was left to my own devices.

I had just loaded my pipe when I spotted three fishermen returning in one of Mike's rental skiffs. In answer to my question on how the fishing had gone, one of the happy fishermen told me they had taken 18 fluke while drifting in the east channel near Shinnecock Inlet. I conceded this indeed was pretty good fishing and that "Big Mike" knew from whence he spoke.

A netted bag containing their catch was left at the fish cleaning table while they busied themselves putting their gear in the car. As anything relating to fish is always interesting to a dedicated fisherman, I decided to hang around and watch the progression of the fish-cleaning operation.

I use the words "fish-cleaning," but after what went on, fish-butchery would be more appropriate. In record time, they had reduced those beautiful fluke into a wasteful, ragged-looking mess. I was sorely tempted to offer advice, but as discretion is often the better part of valor, I restrained myself and decided watching, with an occasional uncontrollable grimace for emphasis, would be as far as I'd go.

Each took a shot at the mayhem being inflicted upon the poor fluke. Finally, I could stand it no longer, especially after the third guy, whose turn was next, cheerfully admitted he couldn't do "as good" a job as his buddies. It was time to leave.

I suppose such scenes are common, and I have no doubt you could easily relate some of the butchery you've witnessed. But doesn't it seem ridiculous for fishermen to go through the often frustrating effort of learning how to catch fish, only to fall by the wayside when it comes to the final aspect of the day's sport: the actual cleaning of the catch? Especially is this so when the job can be accomplished so easily.

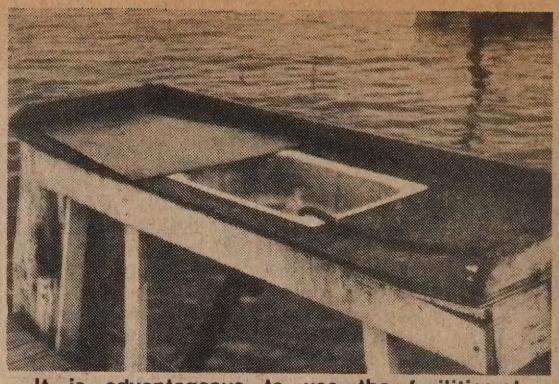
I intended to use the word "chore" instead of "job," but upon reflection, I believe there isn't one dedicated fisherman I know who considers this highly important detail a chore. In fact, most excellent fishermen enjoy the task, some even going so far as to eagerly look forward to it.

As with most everything else in fishing, cleaning the catch isn't difficult. It only becomes so when fishermen tackle the job with heavy-handed methods. If you disbelieve this, watch the skilled fisherman clean a mess of fish. You will see him attain spectacular results with nothing more than a good knife and scaler. Seldom, as is often recommended, will you see him employ a heavy shears to cut off the dorsal and anal fins. He knows doing so will leave small, sharp, throat-gagging bone imbedded in the fish.

If he intends to fillet, this fisherman will then use a fillet knife. He also knows that to use a fillet knife for decapitation and other bone-cutting work is to ruin the knife—sometimes beyond repair. He puts his trust in a much heavier knife for this. Many swear by a stiff, sharp butcher's boning knife. I, too, find that this is the ideal knife for the heavier work.

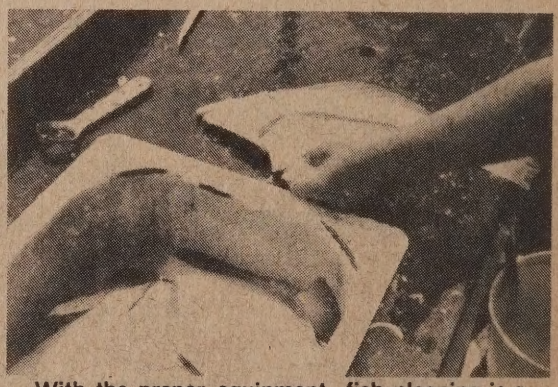
It's more convenient to leave the offal behind than to remove it later from the kitchen furniture, therefore the fisherman should take advantage of the fish-cleaning facilities available at most fishing stations. It's also more satisfying to the fisherman to arrive home, jump into the shower, have supper, and relax or doze off in that comfortable upholstered chair, than to have the nagging thought of impending fish-cleaning uppermost on his mind.

I sometimes think the above is one reason for much of the



It is advantageous to use the facilities at your fishing station.

Good fisherman in the making.



With the proper equipment, fish-cleaning is a snap.

Knowing how to fillet, makes bait preparation easy.

fish-butchery that exists. The tired fisherman just wants to get the job over with. Can't say I blame him, either. I know the feeling, too.

I also know that the average fisherman wants to get the task completed as quickly as possible and still do a satisfactory job in the shortest time. With that in mind, I'll give you the run-down on how I clean my fish. If you use this method, you should have no difficulty getting the job finished as quickly as possible, and still produce good results.

We'll use round fish for starters—round fish meaning any but fluke or flounder. Scale each one before you attempt the actual gutting. You'll save much time if you do this. When the job is completed, wash the fish to remove slippery scales and slime—preferably in salt water.

Then select a fish and grasp by the head. Insert the boning knife completely through, just aft of the pectoral fin. This is the fin at the middle of each fish near the gill cover. Angle the knife toward the anal region and slice through. This will leave you with the intestines and most of the rib cage in one piece.

Cut the head off and you will have completely gutted and decapitated the fish with but two quick passes of the knife. Once you get the hang of it, this should take no more than ten seconds per fish.

I mentioned earlier about not using shears and gave the reason why I didn't think it a good idea. It is easy to safely remove the dorsal and anal fins and the trouble-causing imbedded bone that anchors them securely in the flesh. Simply make a continuous cut through the skin on both sides of each fin as close to the fin-line as possible. Then make a cut at the aft end of each fin at a slight inward angle. Either use the knife blade or rag and lift the fins out with a ripping motion.

You will have removed all the small bones which are always a potential hazard at mealtime. You can now eat your fish with much less worry and small bone picking. Remove tail, too, if you wish.

Soft-rayed fish such as ling don't seem to give much trouble at the table, but they can be removed the same way if desired. It is the hard, thick-spined fish such as sea bass, porgies, blackfish, etc., that cause most trouble.

You can also quickly fillet these fish once the head and intestines are removed. If this is your intention, it is unnecessary to remove the dorsal and anal fin. Just slice the meat off each side by starting at the shoulder of the dorsal fin, working toward the tail. To remove opposite side, turn fish over and begin at tail-end, continuing to shoulder. Always check for rib bones.

If you desire to skin the fillets, don't bother to scale your fish. Just make a shallow cut to the skin of the fillet about a half-inch in from the tail-end and pull skin against knife blade with short, sideway motions. Use the tail-end for a handle. The skin will lift away from the meat with ease. If it is sharp enough, you can use your boning knife to do this.

Below is a quick run-down on how to fillet flounder or fluke. You will find more detailed information in recent back copies of LIF.

Lay fish on board, top side for fluke, bottom side for flounder. Use a good fillet knife and make a diagonal cut from the shoulder toward you, skirting the cut cavity. Next, make a long slice along the center of fish to tail. Begin at center and slice off one piece at a time, always working toward the outside fin-line. Do the same on opposite side. You will get four slices from each fish with this method.

To get two larger pieces instead of four smaller ones, make a diagonal cut as described before, then a half-inch in from the edge of the top fin, make a long, continuous cut to the tail. Start at the shoulder and remove first slice. Reverse fish, head toward you, and make initial cuts as before, then start at the tail-end and work to shoulder and remove fillet.

The running water supplied at most fish-cleaning tables should be used to full advantage. If it is fresh water, I think you will be better off getting several buckets of salt water and use this for washing your fish. Fresh water quickly turns salt water fish soft and soggy. Drain for a few minutes and pack carefully so that no leakage occurs in transporting. And that's all there is to cleaning your fish.

Practice these methods a few times this season. I know you'll do a good job and I'll guarantee you one thing: You'll become an expert fish-cleaner—not a fish-butcher.

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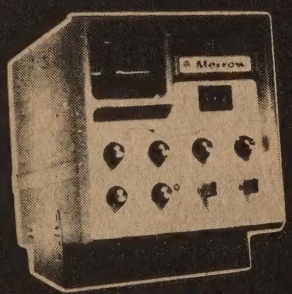

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Fish Talk
with Dr. W.A. Muller

SAILFISH-
Istiaphorus albicans

I'VE BEEN READING a novel about the future space travel of the human species and it's quite interesting. In this science fiction tale, humans encounter another intelligent species on a distant solar system called Mote Prime. Anyway the Moties, as they are called in the story, have a number of very desirable and advanced traits: superior intelligence and technology. But for all this good stuff there is one very major problem, they have a limited life span of about twenty-five years.

SO IT GOES WITH THE SAILFISH! Here is a truly magnificent gamefish: a fish with speed, size, beauty and strength, but alas, the creature enters old age after only three or four growing seasons!

SAILFISH ARE A PELAGIC species. That is, like marlin, tuna, albacore, and bonita the sail swims in the open ocean, usually following a significant current. They may migrate many hundreds of miles each year. Thus, they spawn out there too. Their life cycle has evolved through adaptation to that open habitat. In order to survive in significant numbers pelagic fish have to pass through the vulnerable juvenile stages very rapidly.

THE YOUNG QUICKLY TAKE ON the characteristics of their parents. The bill appears only five days after hatching and they have a sail by the tenth day. Believe it or not, by the end of the first year the juveniles are from five to six feet long and are obviously no longer juveniles.

SAILFISH ARE A MOST SOUGHT after trophy species especially on the Atlantic coast. They are valued as much for their beauty as for their fighting abilities. The flared sail of mounted specimen adds a touch of class to any wall.

SAILFISH ARE RESIDENTS of both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. However there are differences between the Atlantic and Pacific versions. For one thing Pacific sails are larger. Atlantic specimens of 60 to 75 pounds are considered to be good fish and fish over seventy-five pounds are called large. On the other hand, in Pacific waters seventy-five to one hundred pound sailfish are considered to be small fish.

LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT some World's Records. The following data is from the IGFA early in 1976. Lately, world's records have been dropping like rain from the sky and I'm not sure how reliable any world's record is these days. However, the numbers are offered to illustrate the difference in size potentials between Atlantic and Pacific specimens.

THE 50-POUND CLASS All-Tackle Men's record for Atlantic sailfish was set at Walker's Cay in the Bahamas. The fish weighed 123 pounds. In the Pacific Ocean the record was set at Santa Cruz. This fish weighed 221 pounds and was taken on 130-pound class tackle.

SOME SAILFISH SHARPIES WILL argue that there are other differences as well. They suggest that the Atlantic variety puts on more of an aerial display. Furthermore, whereas the Atlantic sail is likely to hit a trolled bait repeatedly with its bill before swallowing it, the Pacific sail will often hit a bait "blind." That is, the Pacific anglers expect that many sails will hit without warning: they will come out of nowhere and take the bait quickly leaving a big splash or hole in the water. These west coast sharpies should see a cow bass take a live bunker!

IN THE PACIFIC, anglers often see groups of sails swimming near or at the surface with their fins and tails plainly above the water line.

BILLFISH HAVE TOUGH MOUTHS and therefore most anglers like to allow the sail to swallow the bait and thus provide a greater chance for a successful hook-up. When the fish are hooked in the gut, they are kept as trophies or the 100-pound test monofilament leader is cut allowing the fish to swim away with the hook. Some fishermen argue that the sailfish is injured by the hook, but others say that the hook will dissolve and the fish will live to fight another day.

FAVORITE BAITS FOR SAILFISH include flying fish, balao mullet and sardines. In the Pacific, sailfish can be seen herding sardines into tight "balls." The baits are generally rigged with the hooks buried in the fish and in such a way that these baits will skip naturally along the surface of the ocean.

SAILFISH STRIKE FROM hunger, but they may also strike in anger. At least that's the opinion of some of today's better sailfishermen. Much of the secret to catching pelagic species is to troll fast, make a lot of noise, and skip the baits along the surface in the wake of the moving boat. Thus, it is argued that the presentation, with all its commotion, both attracts and angers the fish.

SAILFISH ARE SAID TO "Light-Up" when they charge a bait. Much the same thing has been reported for many gamefish, including striped bass and bluefish. Stripers are supposed to turn a rust color at the moment of the strike. Well, I've seen a lot of bass strike my offerings but I've yet to see one flash red! But more and more anglers plying the ocean currents for sails have reported that their colors became very intense at the moment they strike and that some specimens appear to develop a prominant white spot on the head.

LIGHT TACKLE FOR SAILFISH? More and more anglers think that is the way to go. Most of the light tackle interest seems to center around fly-rod techniques. The sails are lured to the boat with trolled baits and when they appear, the baits are hauled in as quickly as possible and often the sailfish will charge after them. Thus, the sails are soon within reach of a fly rod fisherman. If the fish is charged up and in the right frame of mind, it may strike the fly and the angler is in for the thrill of a life time. Sounds good! Anybody for the Gulf of Cortez?

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How to Fillet a Flounder

by Matt Ahern

PHOTO ONE

Use a cutting board, a sharp fillet knife, and plenty of newspaper to catch the drippings. Place flounder in position as shown. Start first cut at shoulder. Diagonally, follow through to opposite side, skirting cut cavity.

PHOTO THREE

This is how your first fillet will look.

PHOTO FIVE

Skinning is easy. Hold fillet at tail-end and make a shallow cut to the skin about half-inch in. This loose piece will act as your handle. Grasp, hold knife at a 45 degree angle and pull skin against knife blade with short sideway motions. Skin will easily peel off.

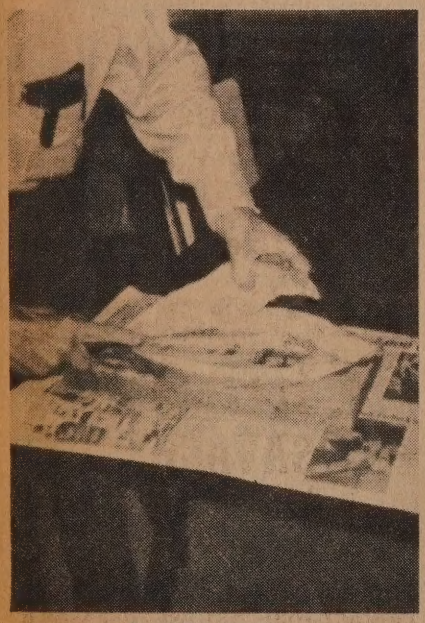


PHOTO TWO

Again starting at the shoulder, make a long continuous slice to the tail, about one-half inch in from fins. This slice has already been made in photo. Then insert knife-point at the shoulder where the two cuts meet. Hold blade at a slight angle and begin slicing. Hold the loosened fillet back and slice to backbone. Then raise knife to 45 degree angle and continue to the other side to fin muscles. Slice free. If you find blade slicing into bone at any time, lower the angle of the knife.

PHOTO FOUR

Turn fish over, head facing you. Make slice across tail at a slight inward angle. Next, make your diagonal cut to the right of the head at shoulder to just below pectoral fin (the one near the gill cover). Then cut across, again skirting the gut cavity. Lay knife flat and starting at tail, slice along fin line to shoulder cut. On this side it isn't necessary to make the long, continuous cut in from fin line as done on the bottom side. Work the fillet off exactly as before.

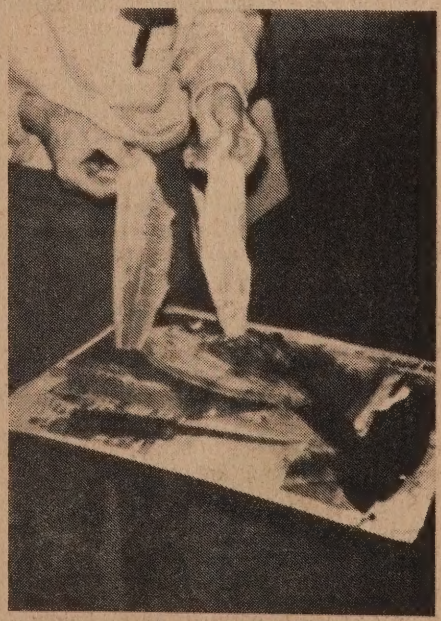


PHOTO SIX

This is how your completed fillets will look. Nothing to it!

The Right Combination

by Ron Onorato

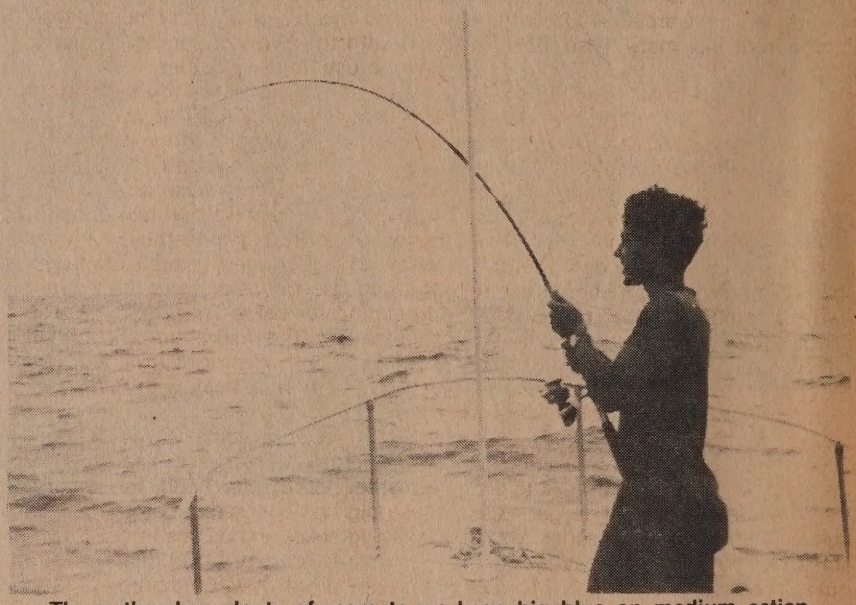
One of the biggest problems concerning many fishermen today, is selecting the correct rod and reel for the many types of fishing they may encounter. Through lack of knowledge or experience they end up fishing with an outfit that is less than satisfactory. When they should be using a conventional outfit, they are using a spinning outfit, and vice-versa. What this means to the fishermen, is less fish and less action in many cases. Every different area of fishing has a certain need that must be met in the way of tackle selection. Some areas demand just one type, while other areas can overlap them.

A word about quality fishing tackle is in order, before we proceed. I don't know how many times that this has been repeated in many magazines before, but it still seems to fall on deaf ears sometimes. Stay with the quality rod and reels. The cost of good spinning and conventional reels has really rocketed in the past few years, and this has scared a lot of economy minded fishermen into looking for cheaper substitutes. In the short run, this may seem like a savings, but in reality, over the long run, it is false economy. While the good quality reel may initially cost more, it will outlast the cheaper model many times over. So the fisherman who buys the cheap stuff will have to replace it maybe two or more times, whereas the better reel will still be in service.

A Case for Spinning Tackle.

Today, just about everyone is spinning reel oriented. Not too long ago, I went down to Freeport to watch some bluefish boats return for the day. As the anglers disembarked from one of the boats, fully half of them must have had spinning rods, some bordering on the ultra light area. It was also noted, that those with the spinning outfits had taken the least amount of fish. These spinning outfit enthusiasts had violated rule number one on tackle selection, using the wrong outfit for that particilar type of fishing. Some remarks included, "I'd rather catch one fish on light tackle than ten on heavy stuff"; "You'll never get me to use those winches," and "I just go fishing for the sport and exercise, and don't care if I catch anything," etc. If that is your attitude towards fishing, all that can be said is good luck.

Now let's take a look at things realistically. Most of us go fishing to catch fish, and we like to have a good time catching fish. By being equipped with the right outfit, you can catch fish and still have a good time. You can overdo it, or you can underdo it, but we'll take a look and see if we can find that happy medium.



The author has plenty of room to work on big blue on medium action spinning outfit, while...

...George Oliver works on big bass diamond jigging in deep water off Montauk.

The trend towards lighter tackle has been evident, and is a welcome change from the old days. Ultra light spinning tackle, those outfits which use six or eight pound test line are seen very frequently, and they have their application. For inshore bottom and bay fishing, these rigs have no peers. Flounders, fluke, weaks and other smaller bottom species are all well suited for spinning tackle. Currents are light, and the water reasonably shallow so the need for heavy lead isn't necessary. This type outfit is good for most bouncing around the bays.

This very same rig also has its applications with other areas of fishing.

A rig of this category will be ideal for casting light lures in the ¼ to ½ ounce range. You can use this rig for mackerel fishing, casting for school bass, and even for small to medium size blues. Six pound line should fill the bill here, with a two or three foot length of 15 lb. mono leader connected to the line via the blood knot, or a very tiny barrel swivel. A good reel here is the Garcia 3000, with a matching rod, no more than 6½' in length.

When you find that conditions are such that the ultra light tackle is inadequate, then you can move up a notch to medium weight spinning tackle and still be in the ballgame. A medium weight spinning rig usually consists of a reel with 10 to 15 lb. mono, and a 7 or 7½ foot rod. It might be added, that this is about the heaviest you should use in the way of spinning tackle from a boat. First off, any longer rod will make it very encumbersome to use, and secondly, there is no real need for it. Though you can stretch the application of this outfit and use it for bottom fishing, it's main purpose should be limited to casting. A rig as such is ideal for casting 1 to 1½ ounce lures for somewhat larger bass and blues. With the proper leader, you'll be able to handle some of the bigger fish you may encounter. The Penn 710 and 712 spinning reels are a good choice for some of this rugged fishing. You'll see that when the need for bigger lures comes into play, a conventional outfit will be the better choice. If you want to go bottom bouncing and you need more than 2 ounces of lead, you'll find spinning tackle a poor second choice to the revolving spool.

Now let's take a look at the real workhorses, the conventional reels, and their companions, the baitcasting outfits. When the word conventional tackle is mentioned, immediately fishermen associate this with heavy tackle. This is not the case most of the time.

First the bait casting outfit. It's good to see an emergence of baitcasting back on Long Island. For many years, only a handful of people used them, and today, it is becoming an acceptable part of the scene. The baitcasting reel is a revolving spool reel whereby, the spool is disengaged by pushing a button on the side of the reel. Although I love light spinning tackle for casting light lures, you get much superior control of both the line and lure with baitcasting reels. With spinning reels, you can't get the feel of the line as you're not able to touch it during the retrieve, as with the baitcasting rig, you can work the line between your left thumb and forefinger and feel every thing that's going on. If you're a heavy fisherman and go out very frequently, the Ambassadeur 6000C is a superior reel, unfortunately, the cost of it is superior also. The Penn Company makes a less expensive reel for those of you who won't be subjecting it to daily, hard use. Fifteen pound mono will fill the bill for almost all cases, provided you use the right leader with the lures. A note on leaders; regardless of what outfit you use, use a mono leader heavier than the line you are using on the reel. In most cases a 2 or 3 foot shot of twenty pound mono is sufficient. If the fish are big and mean, go to thirty pound test. And with the blues of course, you may have to use the wire leader.

Like spinning tackle, conventional tackle has an ultra light area also. My lightest conventional outfit consists of a tiny, old Penn Beachmaster. This reel is filled with 12 pound mono and is used with a very whippy Harnell blank, about 6 feet long. This rig is used basically for sinker bouncing when a couple of ounces of lead is needed, and for clam chumming for bass. This same rig also doubles as a bluefish chum stick when the conditions are right for its use, namely, a private boat with plenty of room.

Next in line we come to the medium range rigs, which are really very versatile. When the need for casting those big two or three ounce plugs, the revolving spool reel comes into its own. After a little practice, you'll learn how to heave the big stuff with no problem. The only reel that I've found adequate for this casting is the Penn Squidder #140. This reel when used with a plastic spool allows very good lure control, unavailable with a spinning outfit. You can use straight mono with the reel, or you can go to Micron line, which is excellent for casting. Twenty or thirty pound line is about right, but when used for casting stay with the plastic spool.

This very same outfit can now double for a bluefish chumming stick for use on a crowded party boat, or a live bait stick for eels or bunkers. The only difference here is that the plastic spool is changed for a metal spool, and the line used is exclusively monofilament. You can stay at twenty pound test and not suffer any great disadvantage. You can use any number of rods for this area, but you'll probably need one designed specifically for casting, and another for chumming, baitfishing, etc. You can buy the rods already made, or you can have them custom made, which is the better choice. Sea Isle Sports in Freeport made me a 7½ foot conventional casting stick over 8 years ago, and the only thing that was done to that rod, besides catching over a ton of bass on it, was to replace the guides once. Like the old saying goes, "You get what you pay for."

Now we come to the real heavyweights the codfish sticks. Actually, unless you go codfishing a lot, you can double this rod as a shark stick, or light tuna outfit. The reel here is either a 3/0 or 4/0 Penn Special Senator, both of which are blessed with a high gear ratio that makes recovery of the line as quick as possible. With the 3/0, thirty pound mono is plenty, and the 4/0 can use 40 pound stuff. The rods are long and strong, designed for party boat cod fishing, where it is often necessary to cast out away from the boat. If you go shark fishing, you can use the 4/0 or up to a 6/0 reel with 50 or 80 pound mono, and use a somewhat different rod designed for this purpose.

That just about wraps up a very brief look at what is available to you. It would take take a full length volume to really cover it good. The idea that I've been trying to get across, isn't that everyone should forget about the light tackle and go for the meat sticks; on the contrary. The message here is to use the right tackle for the right fish. With the decreasing number of fish available, I want to have the best going for me. Though I love the sea and all its natural beauty, when I go fishing, I along with a great majority of fishermen, want to catch fish. In other words, whatever tackle is required to take fish, that must be used, or you go empty. Try to go as light as reasonably possible, and take all conditions under consideration. You wouldn't use that codfish stick for fluke, nor would you use that light spinner for eel fishing for big bass. Common sense is the biggest asset you have here.

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INTERVIEW WITH DANNY PICHNEY

Part II

by Tim Coleman

Q. What about your views on white water for surf fishing?
A. Surfmen always look for white water which isn't always true. When you have flat water and sunshine you fish the late afternoon with a surface swimmer. Move it along, pop the lure, use a dark color. So with the sunshine you have a contrast. This type of fishing isn't as good on an overcast day as it is on a nice day.

Q. What about the contrast of a dark plug?
A. Contrast is a light shade or a dark shade. That's the important part of the color of a plug, not the fancy eyes or gradual tones or other subtle effects.

Q. Some guys swear by a white plug in clear water and a yellow lure when it's murky. What do you say about that?
A. In clear water I like the white plug. What I learned from top plug fishermen was one good color in the daytime was silversides coloration like say one plug I showed to you that had a mullet-color paint.

Q. You make some all black plugs for night fishing. Do you think they score better or is it just something a fisherman ordered?
A. I never used black much myself but I have some good customers that love black. For the last two years in a row some fellows out at Montauk have done very well with this color but naturally they won't spread the news around. Another good fisherman who used to live in New York and moved to Connecticut uses the black plugs.

Q. Is that Pat Abate?
A. Yes, he likes the swimmers in black.

A. What about some of the locals? I understand New Yorkers from the Big Apple have a reputation at the Cape as being very, very hard fishermen? Sometimes they get more fish than the natives mainly because they try harder.

A. Yes, they have the reputation as though fishermen and yes, sometimes they did better than anybody else. This Brooklyn crew used to go up anytime the word got around that the fish were in. Once they were fishing, an outsider didn't stand a chance to get into the rip or some of the better water. At that point a good fisherman finds himself a spot that's not so crowded so he can enjoy himself more.

Q. Are you still talking about the Cape?
A. There's a lot of places up at the Cape like the one they call the Wheatfields. Here you can work a surface lure and can see the grass part and the fish come out after the plug. It's beautiful.

Q. What's the first thing somebody says to you about your catch?
A. The first thing is any fish? The next is any size? I hate to hear those words. I caught some fish and that's all I care.

Q. I don't think the meat-hunting bun dunker will go away.
A. When they started with the c bellies out at Montauk they did v well. They were sinking the boats. N they're not doing it any more beca they took the local population to mar You have different types of fish. have the migrating fish and the l

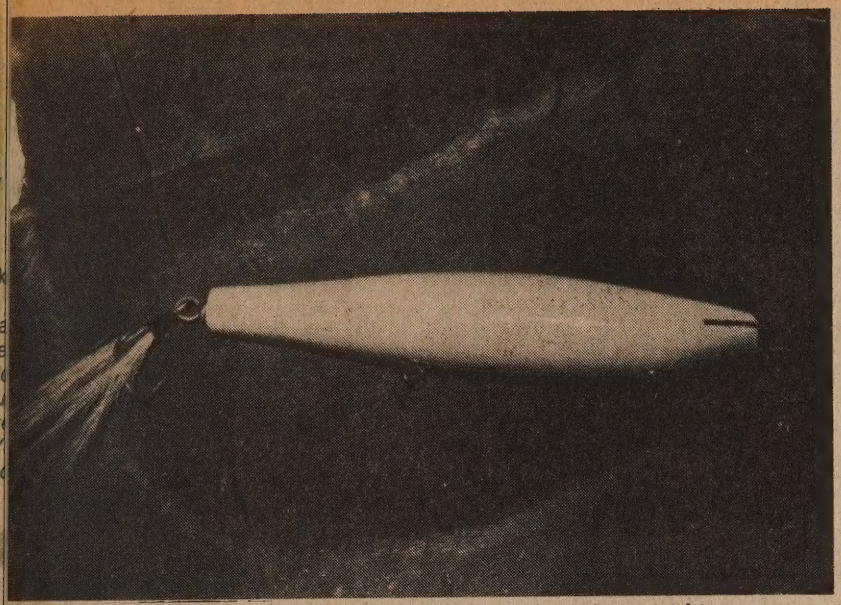
Danny Pichney in his workshop in the basement of his home in Jackson Heights, N.Y.

Q. You would just as soon have the action as the size?
A. Yes, that's right.

Q. You're not like a lot of people out there trying to make a meat score.
A. You have to ask yourself the question, "Am I going fishing or am I out for meat?" One fellow I fished with would never bring say a ten pound fish back to the dock. It would be little to him. We would sometimes see acres of school bass, but he wouldn't go after them because he wanted the big stuff. To me I don't care what size the fish are even if they are shorts.

fish. The locals stay around all seas When you clean out the local fish wh return to the same areas year after ye they're gone. You don't see the clam bellies producing what it has in past. They cleaned out their regu fishing. The fish that spent th summers at Montauk are gone. Last y was one of the worst years at Monta

Q. Do you think bass fishing in genera going downhill?
A. I can definitely tell you because fish aren't back in the wetlands a more. Every year bass used to come i brackish waters in March to spawn. N



This Danny Plug has recently been refinished. So far it has caught over 300 striped bass.

know people don't fish for striped s in Marcn. They're not there any e. You can't put the blame on thing except the fast that some ers are dead. Your bogs are dead. you ever see how a bog looks loaded fiddler crabs? They're not there any e. In Great South Bay in Jamaica, e's no killies any more.

Some of the fellows were saying the were further north last year. They e up at the Cape and beyond. There e very few fish from New Jersey to ntauk.

The fish are supposed to start wing up in New Jersey in May. Last r they weren't showing.

Do you agree there's not that many ool bass around?

Last year there just wasn't any four to pound fish to speak of. All the fish e over 15 pounds. Where are the e fish? That's it.

What's going to happen when these ger fish are thinned down? There's little fish coming up.

What people seem to do is shown cern when something is gone, just this natural gas. They knew all along had to do something but no action taken. All of a sudden this cold er came. Now they're saying to cut n on the fuel. Something should e been done before we had this blem.

The bass fishing seems destined to worse before it gets better. It's going et leaner.

Between the clam chumming and the ker fishing they put some dent in the . The clam chum cleaned out the all fish and the bunkers cleaned out big ones. There's one beach in Rockaway that in one tide produced a good 70 cows. That caliber fishing isn't there any more. They've been plucking these fish out of these corners for years and now they're gone. Last year even the good sharpshooters had a tough time catching fish with bunkers in the same places where they did a job the years before.

Q. Why do you think some fellows never do well at bass fishing even though they put their share of time in?

A. Most of your good fishermen hate aggressive people. Most times if you keep your eyes open, your mouth shut, and your ears open and watch. If you see a fellow catch a fish and you can't catch one, hang up your whatdoyacallit lure and watch. What's he doing that you're not doing. See how he fishes. That's the only way you learn. If you go up and ask stupid questions, you're going to get stupid answers. Most of them will lie and you won't get the truth. You can see what a person is doing anyway.

Q. Even though a person watches, he still has to be in the right spot.

A. Fish work a certain pattern. They wait for feed to come around the end of a jetty in a certain spot. Last spring in the middle of the night one of the fellows that uses my lures went down to Jones Beach area to one of the bridges. In the light underneath the bridge he saw six big fish. He took the surface swimmer and threw it out and was retrieving it real slow. He said you could see fish drifting towards the side. All of a sudden the lead fish went for the lure. The fish weighed 39 pounds. He couldn't believe it. That shows you if you're in the right spot with the right thing you're going to catch the fish.

Q. Was the first bass the biggest one?

A. No, there were bigger ones. Nobody knows about this fishing. Matter of fact, some people have been arrested because this place is kind of restricted. They have to park their cars in the bushes. And the cops look for them. The cop knows them by name. He says, all right Andy, where are you, come on out. That area is always loaded with big fish at that time of year.

Q. Why are the fish there?

A. They're chasing the big bunkers. It's quite a sight.

Q. What was one of the oddest things you've seen bass fishing?

A. One time at Montauk we saw a fellow and his wife. He asked how do you keep from getting caught in the rocks? You know what he was doing? He was throwing a lure out on a bottom rig and then waiting for a fish to bite. It's funny but it's pathetic too at the same time. He heard they were catching with a Rebel plug so he put a Rebel out instead of a worm.

Q. It's a pretty good drive to Montauk. Do you still drive a lot to go fishing?

A. Some, but not as much as I used to. When I used to go to the Cape I would come back by the Merritt Parkway. That was before the Connecticut Turnpike. Every mile they had the mileage marked: You would see 99, 98, 97 more miles to go. It used to drive me crazy. When I go now it doesn't bother me. I drive now to Montauk and back and it doesn't bother me. I sing to myself to pass the time.

A. I do too.

A. I used to hate riding through Providence R.I. on Route 6A before the highway was built. You would drive back alley ways. Unbelievable. It would take so long. Then one trip I got lost in Fall River. I made a wrong turn after the bridge and got down to the factories and didn't know where I was. But Providence was the worst. You used to have to go in back of buildings all the time turning right or left to follow the arrows for Route 6A. I used to tell the kids when we got near Buzzards Bay, do you smell the saltwater? They would say, I don't smell nuthin.''

EDITOR'S NOTE: Danny and the interviewer talked for a little while longer but it was getting late so they called it quits. We hope you enjoyed the story. Our interviewer came away with the view that Mr. Danny Pichney is a man worth listening to.

A Soft Look at a Hard Winter

by Capt. John DeMaio

A dedicated fisherman has an awareness of the weather around him that makes him akin to the meteorologists. Even when not fishing. On the way to work he may watch the tree tops for signs of wind. He may observe the cloud formations. The station on his car radio is one that gives a marine weather forecast. "On the sound, winds will be northwest, 10 to 15, with higher gusts." He remembers one night on North Bar in November, in the face of a stiff northwester, when he busted off the biggest damn bass he ever had hold of.

A fisherman's close relation with the weather is understandable. Not merely because the pursuit takes in the greater outdoors, hell no! The involvement is more than physical, it is also spiritual. Why does a bass fisherman pace the floor on a cold night in January and repeatedly go to the window? Because of the full moon. How bright it seems in winter. Reflecting off the snow and illuminating the world beyond the window. A lunar magic pulls at your center core with a magnetic force that is undeniable. You must answer the call or seek relief from its demands if by no other means than a phone call to a fishing buddy. Most suffer silently or take a winter's ride across the causeway in search of the sea. In some men the urge of ancestral beings flows through their fibres. A desire to return to the origin, the sea, where all life began. Now we can understand the angler's preoccupation with the elements that surround him. Weather, the unpredictable bastard who brings both the pleasure and the pain.

This winter, the New York area has had a taste of severe winter unknown to two generations and nearly forgotten by others. People have walked across Great South Bay if for no other reason but to say they have done it. Every bay and estuary on Long Island was frozen solid. Nothing moved in or out of Montauk Harbor for a week. Even the United States Coast Guard answered the phone to say "We're closed." One large boat, headed offshore, took 10 hours to go from his slip to the lighthouse before breaking through the ice. From the parking lot at the lighthouse one day, the ice flows looked like they went all the way to Block Island. The Pollock Rip appeared to be frozen over. Up and down the east coast, this winter was labeled, "The Hardest in Fifty Years."

The big question among fishermen now is, how will this effect the fishing this season? Going on the opinion of those who have spent more years than myself resisting the full moon, the general attitude is one of high optimism. Predictions for good fishing are plentiful where fishermen gather. Their reasoning bears the simplicity of common sense so prevalent in fishermen. I, for one, am not predicting anything. My attitude about all this is one of wait and see.

The paragraphs to follow will list reasons why this coming season may be a solid one.

Omitted is the scientific data that would elaborate the spawning ability of certain species during winters of prolonged freezing.

The Northeast Atlantic is the most prolific body of water in the world for propagation of sea life. It is probably matched only by the North Pacific. Both areas have cold water. Cold water in our region is the same as healthy water. Prolonged periods of warmth have given us more grief than duly allotted. Red tides are blamed on too much calm weather. Warm water aided by the lack of turbulence created by storms, upset the delicate balance of microscopic sea life. That dreaded pollution that engulfed most of the south shore and Jersey may be held in check this summer. If the entire striped bass population had enough sense to migrate out of Chesapeake Bay because of similar conditions (man made or not), they sure as hell have the cunning to shy from what we offer. Unfortunately, areas fed by river flows might suffer the dilemma of pollution due to flooding. That is one problem that Long Island need not concern itself with. Not in the short run anyway. So let's all toast to a delicious glass of algae free salt water.

Hopefully, a cold Atlantic Ocean will be surrounding our shores. It is understandable to assume that if our waters are cold, the areas further east and north of Montauk will be colder. Keeping this in mind, it is also assumed that the fish will linger in our area for the summer instead of travelling further north and contending with colder than desirable water temperature. More and more, the fish we pursue seem to be showing up in greater numbers in the Cape area and points beyond. The Cape enjoyed a good run of large bass while we had merely marginal amounts. Even though the bass population has dwindled, a large body of fish concentrate somewhere for the summer. With luck we may be that somewhere.

That great state of Maine was shipping bass into the Fulton Market. I have known about bass being in Maine for some years now. This is the first I have heard of a commercial fishery there for bass, and an unusual amount of fluke were boxed by draggers working these eastern waters. Bluefish also have ventured more and more easterly in recent years. Evidence of this was obvious in Montauk this summer. For what one considered a guarantee, a boat ride to south of Block Island was the best bet. All of these northeast migrations give evidence to the belief that the waters have warmed. So it is commonly accepted. Then again, it could be a changing life cycle in the fish. I seriously doubt the latter.

Local bay men in Amagansett insist that the bait stays in our area after a tough winter. This also would encourage the predatory species to linger. Could this be the reason why the Sound was missing those good runs of bluefish experienced in recent years? Stories of big bluefish chasing smelt, or anchovies being seen as far west as the East River. What happened? Was it just one of those inexplicable things or was the water warmer? Did the Cape have good bass fishing whilst we suffered due to pollution here at home or warm water? Did they go as far north as Maine and even Canada, because they wanted a change of scenery? Are blueflush just crazy? Where are all the jumbo porgies?

Correct me if I am wrong. Six years have passed since I last caught any tinker mackerel. What happened to those guys? I know the commercial fishing has put a big dent in their numbers, but we still have runs of bostons, so why not the tinkers? This sure is going to be some season for a wait and see.

Commonly accepted truths among fishermen are not necessarily accurate. Someone recently stated in conversation, the common belief that codfish gulp in stones when heavy weather is impending. Come on now, gang. That's a bit much to swallow. As a kid I did. Now it would seem more likely that the fish would simply head for deeper water to avoid the tempest. Weather changes are accompanied by changes in the atmospheric pressure (your barometer readings). The pressure is felt by the fish. This is what may or may not make him move. My guess is any codfish with stones in his stomach got them there trying to gobble up a crab off the ocean floor. He did not take the stones on for ballast.

That story tends to illustrate the false concepts we tend to follow. Rain today does not mean flowers tomorrow. A frigid winter could bring a disastrous fishing season with the only thing plentiful being fog. Let's hope not. This time I am dropping my pessimistic facade and showing the bright-eyed optimist within. A year that has something in it for everyone. Tuna for the offshore fans. Maybe the surfcasters will get a break and the bass will venture into water less than 15 feet deep. Big fluke instead of small ones! Jumbo porgies for our uptown brothers. Seabass so thick they enter the bays. Weakfish fulfill the promise of three years past. Bluefish so numerous we will avoid them like the plague in hopes of saving our strength and tackle for the striped bass. Sounds good, doesn't it? Well, hope for the best fellas. Keep the faith for a productive 1977 season. "I'll drink to that!"

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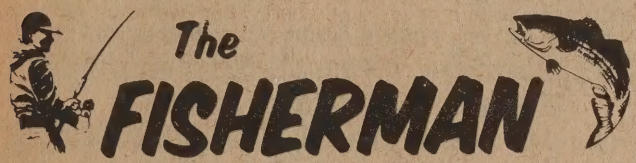

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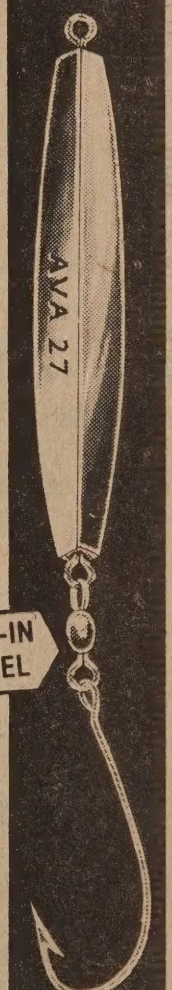

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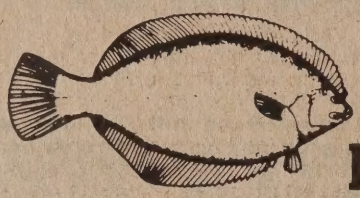

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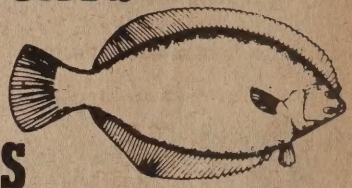

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SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

MONTAUK

Capt. Richard Rade of the **Marlin IV** REPORTED THAT THE COD ACTION ON Sunday was fair. Thirty five anglers took 80 cod averaging 6 to 7 lbs. with the pool fish 15 lbs. The highlight of the day was four hake in the 35-40 lb. class. No blackfish around as of yet but they are expected shortly. The hot areas remain Block Island and Cartwright.

On Saturday, the **Triton II** had a charter out that took 25 cod on rod and reel ranging from 2 to 10 lbs. But the set line that was put out managed to produce 50 cod in the 15-40 lb. range. This coming Thursday the crew from the Long Island Fisherman will be taking a busman's holiday on the Triton II. Stu Miller will try to top his broken rod cod act of last year aboard the charter boat **Montauk**.

Capt. Bud Dorman of the **Viking Skipper II** called to say that the boat is all pained up and is ready to start sailing this Friday, April 1, to the Block Island and Cartwright Grounds and on local wrecks for cod, pollack and blackfish. The boat will be sailing 6 a.m. daily and 5 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. Buddy said that he has added a new Loran C and a single sideband long distance radio to the boat's electronic room.

We ran into Capt. Paul Sundberg of the charter boat **Montauk** at Cove Marina on Sunday and caught Paul in the act of putting a new paint job on the vessel. Paul said that he is also in the process of installing new secret sound equipment on the boat for shark fishing that will bring the art of sharking into the space age. More on this as information becomes declassified.

Capt. Brad Glas of the **Helen II** had some good news to convey. His father, Capt. George Glas, has decided to retire and Brad will be taking over the helm of the **Hel-Cat**, which will continue to be run out of Groton, Conn. The red cat has be refurbished with rugs and all and now has a full restaurant aboard. The Helen II is being sold, but the Hel-Cat will be running from Groton to Montauk for fluke fishing until the bluefish arrive. To get to the boat take Interstate 95 north to the Gold Star Memorial Bridge, then stay in the right lane east bound to the Bridge St. exit and follow to Thames St. A brochure and map is available if you drop a line to: The Hel-Cat Fleet at 181 Thames St., Groton, Ct. 06340. By the way, Brad and his wife will be relaxing in between fishing trips on the horse ranch they just purchased in Conn., where they are going to breed quarter horses.

This Saturday I stopped in the **Star Island Yacht Club** to see Henry Colombi and couldn't believe the changes that have been made. The store has been tripled in size to over 5000 square feet. New lines of boating supplies and equipment have been added, the parts

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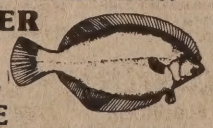
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department has been expanded and the marina is now a distributor for Onan generators and is an authorized dealer for Crysler Marine and Chris Craft. The tackle and bait department has been doubled in size and the grocery department almost tripled. Eight showers have been added to the mens and ladies rooms and the laundry room for marina customers has also been expanded. Although the Star Island Yacht Club is Montauk's largest marina, with over 140 slips, there are only a few left for the season, so if you are thinking of docking there, you had better hurry up.

SAG HARBOR

Chris at **Bayview Fishing Station** tells us that Sag Harbor Cove is producing excellent flounder catches right now on bloodworm and mussel baits, fish from 1¾ —2½ pounds. The larger fish are being taken from Shelter Island Sound, and best is at the change of tide at the high.One angler had 40 flounder, many up to 2 pounds taken from the Shelter Island Sound at nun 14.

SHINNECOCK

Capt. Bellows, Sr. of the **Capt. Clark Fleet** said that fishing on Sunday was very good for flounder and fish were caught on every drop. All aboard had 6 to 8 fish and some anglers had between 12 and 15. Dave Dorf of Long Beach took the pool with a 2½ pounder. Most of the flounder averaged 1 to 1¼ pounds and the best area has been off Jamesport, at Flanders Bay and Indian Point.

HAMPTON BAYS

Bradley's Fishing Station reported that the flounder fishing is very good right in front of the station around the red buoy and also around the Shinnecock Canal. The fish are averaging 1 to 1¼ lbs. with a few up to 2 lbs. Chumming with mussels is a must and bloodworms seem to be the best bait. Fish are hitting through both tides and are showing no preference.

Corr's Mariners Cove reported that fishing on Sunday was very good with an average catch of about 8 fish for each man in a boat. All the hot fishing is in Shinnecock Bay and most of the fish are around 1½ lbs. Best action has been at the change for high tide. Mussels and/or corn for chum is helpful and bloodworms seem to be better for bait than sandworms.

MORICHES BAY

L & M Marine reported that the flounder catches have been spotty as a rule but on Sunday one group led by Mr. Corsello went up east of buoy 52 and had 70 keepers, all between ¾ and 2 lbs. using mussels for chum and bloodworms for bait. Locally about a dozen boats had a slow pick through both tides. The best action seems to be in the local canals, not in Moriches Bay itself.

Richie at **Seatuck Cove Fishing Station** called to tell us that on Saturday fishing

was very poor because of the cold and wind conditions, which made it impossible to chum. On Sunday, he had most of his boats out and they did very well with about 40 flounder per boat. The fish were taken just west of the Westhampton Bridge, around buoys 52 and 54. The flounders went up to 2 lbs. and were taken on worms and mussels or corn were used for chum. Richie says that the flounder are still in the eastern portion of the bay and if the weather improves, they will move down to buoys 38 and 42.

MASTIC BEACH

Gary at **Stiritz Fishing Station** reports that Saturday was blown out, but Sunday was very good at buoys 9, 10 and 11, for the first three hours of the flood. Bloodworm and mussel baits plus heavy chumming and stirring up the bottom was the ticket. All fish were between 1 and 1¾ pounds.

WEST SAYVILLE

South Bay Fishing Station reports that Saturday was just so-so but Sunday was classified as good fishing off buoys 28 and 29 at Hecksher and the flats southwest of Green Point, chumming with mussels and using dyed squid and dyed skimmer on all moving tides. Chumming is a must.

BAY SHORE

Karl at **Smokey's Bait & Tackle** reports that the area behind the hospital should be worked at the six-foot mark with bloodworms and mussels plus a lot of chum. On Sunday, one angler had 40 flounder in three hours fishing behind the hospital and on the Hecksher flats in nine feet of water, fish going to 1¾ pounds. YOU MUST CHUM. Worm and mussel baits are working best with both tides producing. Karl says he heard of substantial catches of mackerel on the outside about three miles east of the Whistler. This was a hook and line catch of about 50 pounds of macks.

CAPTREE

Capt. George Tweedy of the **Capt. Scotty** reported that the high winds all week long left the waters of Great South Bay a dark, murky brown and as a result the fishing on the weekend was pretty slow.

Capt. Gordon Roman of the **Captree Queen** reported that fishing on Saturday was poor due to the wind. At least Sunday saw some good weather for a change, but fishing was still slow with average catches of 3 or 4 flounder per man. The fish are still big and it seems you only catch 10 or 12 fish wherever you drop anchor. The best areas have been buoy 4 off Heckscher and buoys 18 to 24 and the flats off Sailor's Haven. The change of tide usually sees the action pick up a little.

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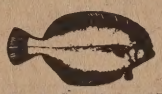
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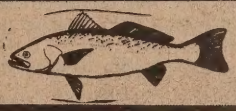

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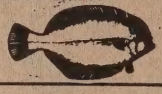

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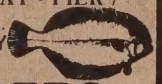

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BABYLON

Babylon Fishing Station reports that he had a lot of boats out Sunday. Joe Schepper on Trio had 55 flounder, fishing south of Brightwaters. Stirring u the bottom is necessary. The flats and the bridge area are also producing some flounder from ½ to 2¼ lbs for many of the skiffs also. The clam diggers are getting good numbers of fat flounder in their rakes. A few smaller fish are being caught also, and generally, the flounder appear to be spread out.

Charlie's Fishing Station tells us that they are opening this weekend and all the boats have just been painted and caulked and the engines put in peak condition.

LINDENHURST

Charlie's Bait & Tackle tells us that the flounder fishing is good, with Gabby Cuiffo bagging a one lb., eight ounce fish on Sunday while partner Nick Zigo boated a one pound, 10 ounce fish, while Tony the Shoemaker stood by and coached. This was just east of the Bay bridge. Altogether, they took 22 flounder on worm and mussel with a lot of mussel chum. Many other customers came in

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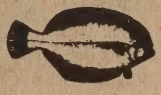

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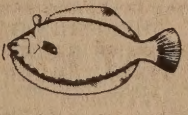

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with their flounder catches, says John. 100 miles offshore, the draggers are loading up with big fluke which would seem to point to another potential good fluke year.

COPIAGUE

Jonas Bait & Tackle informs us that Saturday he saw good flounder catches brought into the shop. 25 fish were boated by two customers, fish going up to 1½ lbs. Productive areas are the Amityville cut, Sloop Channel, up to Squaw Island and the state channel. The Copiague Beach was also producing. Mussel/worm combos are hot. You've got to chum or stir up the bottom to catch fish. Incoming is working best but all moving water is producing. The clammers are getting fish in their tongs. Smaller fish are also being taken now in with the "giants."

AMITYVILLE

George Combs Bait & Tackle tells us that Sunday saw good flounder fishing at West Island, Bass Creek, Unqua Point and Fort Neck Point on worm, mussel and claim, with chumming a must. Catches are 5-15 flatties per man and all are nice size fish. Incoming is best with high water starting to fall being very good fishing the edges of the bars.

SEAFORD

Lon Wanser Bait & Tackle tells us that Massapequa Cove, Florence Beach, West Island anf Four Corners are the areas to fish now, with worm and mussel baits, heavy on the chum. The fish are there, reports Lon.

BELLMORE

Roy at **Merrick Marine Supplies** tells us that lots of flounder are being caught at Rowboat Alley, in East Bay and at Swift Creek. Sunday saw many good catches on worms and mussels, with chumming a must. Any moving water is productive. Fish are running 3/4 to 1½ lbs., and there are now some smaller fish mixed in, which is a good sign.

MERRICK

Jimmy at **Nick's Fishing Station** reports that Sunday saw good flounder action at his first three poles, some boats with catches in the 40's. Most of the boats had good catches. The trick is to stay put, don't keep moving around and keep the chum flying. Fish are 3/4 to 2 lbs. Best areas are Nick's Point, Rowboat Alley and Merrick Point.

BALDWIN

Arthur Street Fishing Station reports

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that flounder are being taken in Baldwin Bay and Middle Bay. Gus the barber had a pailful while Steve Cesarski had a 48 flounder. Incoming is best on worm and clam baits and don't forget to chum heavily.

N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

Frank's Fishing Station reports that a few of his skiffs picked some fish in Swift Creek and behind Merrick on worm and mussel with lots of mussel chum.

Anthony's Fishing Station reports that a couple of his skiffs caught flounder, working Long Creek and by the first Meadowbrook bridge. Catches were up to a dozen good size fish. Again, you've got to chum heavy.

Bob at **Hook Line & Sinker Bait & Tackle** reports that the flounder are spotty but are of good size at the Swift and Long Creek areas. Saturday saw the

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Sea Wife return to the dock with 103 keeper flounder taken on mussels and mussel chum at the Amityville cut. Don't forget to sign up for the store's sea robin and bergal tournament. At the very least, there is a great looking free patch awaiting you.

the Starstream II is out of the shipyard now and is at the dock being painted and undergoing its yearly C.G. inspection and will be sailing again soon. Watch their ad for details.

Captain Al reports that best area for fish now is Squaw Island. He has been catching mainly big flounder, with the emphasis being on size rather than quantity right now.

The Aloma II reports that while the flounder fishing is only fair locally, it is steadily improving as to volume and most fish are 1½ to 1¾ **pounds.**

The Blue Fin II had a Japanese group charter the boat on Saturday. They boated 13 fat flounder running 1/2 to a pound. Captain Sy reports that they filleted and cut the meat into strips and with a special sauce brought aboard, all the fish was consumed raw, by the time they returned to the dock. The larger fish were taken on skimmers. Sy says the raw flounder was very good.

The Capt. Hall tells us that 12 flounder was high hook on Sunday's trip with a 1¾ pound fish taking the pool. Three-quarters of a pound had to be considered a small fish.

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POINT LOOKOUT

Ed's Fishing Station reports the flounder fishing picked up again on Sunday after a week of cold weather. Flounder from 3/4 .-1½ pounds are being taken on worms with heavy mussel chumming. On Sunday, boats were taking from 12 to 18 fish and if the weather remains good catches should increase.

The Ginnie Mae fished the Reynolds Channel areas this weekend with worms and a lot of bottom stirring. Although the volume of fish is not yet there, they are fat and sassy with numbers increasing as the days go by.

JAMAICA BAY

Cross Bay & Tackle reports good flounder fishing at the North and South channel bridges and Silver Hole on worms and mussel chum, with fish being taken up to two pounds.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

The **Eagle** has just been repainted and mechanically tuned and even sports an additional new fish finder, reports Capt. Larry. He will be resuming ling and whiting fishing on a regular daily basis again this Thursday, 3-31. The tile fish trips scheduled for April 1 and 15 are completely sold out.

Big Mohawk II reports he had a group headed by Tom Rubino of New York City out on Sunday where they did a good job on flounder, fishing the head of Jamaica Bay. They had a nice pick all day, fish running from 3/4 to 1½lbs. Thirty-one anglers averaged 6-12 fish per man. Twice that amount were small and were returned. The fish are moving now. Tony asked us to announce that he will be running open on Good Friday.

Capt. Butch of the **zephyr** on Saturday fished the Silver Hole area with fair results. On Sunday, Butch reports he had really fast fishing at Jersey's

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Navesink, with fish up to 2½ lbs. A father and son had 65 flounder between them. All aboard had 20 fish and up and there was even a triple header. Flounder blitz time. Incoming was best. Mussels and sand worms were the bait, heavy on the chum.

The **Elsie K III** had a good day Saturday fishing the airport area with sand worms and chum. Average as 15 fish a man, with 30 fish being high hook and the pool going 1+¾ **pounds. Sunday high hook was 18 fish with average being 6-7 flatties per man, incoming water best.**

CAPT. Tom on the PILOT II **reports a good day on Sunday working Jersey's Navesink, with 20 to 25 flounder per man. Fish ran 1/2 to 1¼** pounds. Tom had fished Silver Hole during the week. The ticket is heavy chumming with sand worms and mussels for bait.

NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

ORIENT POINT

Port of Egypt reported fishing last week was limited to shore fishing due to the high winds. Most of the shore fishermen tried in the local creeks with bloodworms or mussels. At the first sign of some good weather we should see plenty of fishermen out because people are itching to go.

GREENPORT

A.P. White Bait Shop said the first catches of flounders were made last week. No great amounts of fish were taken but all those caught were nice sized. One spot mentioned was near the south ferry over by Sag Harbor. It's a pretty good bet if we get some sunshine the flounder fishing will really pick up.

The **Wilhelric** reports that on Sunday, eight fares had 72 flounder averaging 1-1½ lbs. The best area has been Cockel's Harbor, mostly on mussels and sand worms and mussel chum.

The **Brand X** starts sailing this weekend and Capt George Porter says he expects a strong flounder season, as th draggers are picking up lots of good size fis

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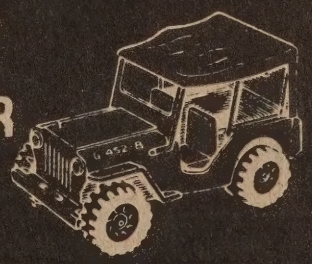
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AQUEBOGUE

warren's Tackle Center said much the same as a lot of shops we called. There was very little in the way of fishing reports because most people just didn't want to go out in the cold, windy weather.

NORTHPORT

Tom at **Bowman's Sporting Goods** said the flounder fishing is picking up. Last week one fellow caught 40 keepers in Northport Harbor. He fished by the airplane hanger near the Vanderbilt Museum. That same day other fishermen in the same spot got fish also. A few small bass were taken on Whiptails and Rebels at the power plant. There's also some flounder fishing going on down there too. In addition there was a mixture of a couple of kingfish, lafayettes, blowfish and one blackfish caught there by fellows fishing bait on the bottom.

SELDEN

Ken at the **Angler's Den** said he got a good amount of flounder reports from both shores of the island last week. If the weather warms up we should see a big increase in flounder catches. Incidentally, the weatherman has promised some better temperatures. Last week Ken had a flounder of 2 pounds, 8 ounces weighed in at the shop. Nice fish! Fishing at the power plant is slow. The common feeling is the seining depleted the stock on fish that were in there.

HUNTINGTON

George at **Four Winds Tackle** said action was very limited last week due to high winds and cold weather. A few flounder were caught off local docks but nobody got out in a boat. Last Monday some small bass were taken at the power plant but it's been quiet since then. Last Monday's action was the first sign of activity at the plant in a while.

GLEN COVE

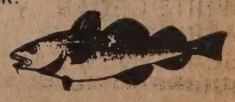
Glen Cove Sport Shop reports good flounder fishing on the Glen Cove flats on any moving water, as evidenced by two locals boating 34 flatties from ½ to 1½ lbs on sand worms, with mussels and corn chum.

KINGS PARK

A new fishing station has opened in this area. It is **Mae's Way Fishing Station** and is located at Beacon on the Sound Restaurant for those looking for skiff rentals in that area. It will be opening the beginning of April.

CITY ISLAND

Jack at **Jack's Bait & Tackle** said the flounder fishing isn't too bad over in the lagoon by Orchard Beach. Some fellows tried off the City Island Bridge but they didn't do so good. The City Island party boats only sailed once during the week because of high winds. Last Saturday they did get out. Catches ran around 10 to 15 fish per man over in Oyster Bay. Jack will have his rental boats ready by next week.



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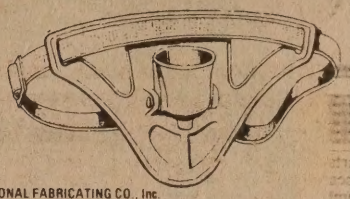

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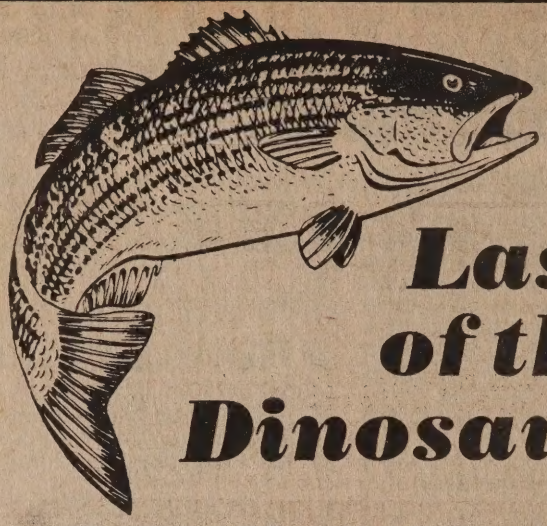

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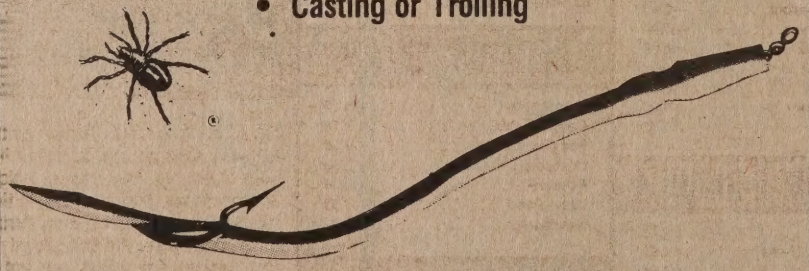
- Casting or Trolling



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HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGEPORT AM	BRIDGEPORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THUR.	4:25	5:02	5:19	5:44	5:06	5:39	6:04	6:31	7:42	8:16	8:05	8:29	4:29	4:53	3/31
FRI.	5:20	5:50	6:09	6:29	5:58	6:25	6:51	7:14	8:39	9:06	8:53	9:16	5:17	5:40	4/1
SAT.	6:08	6:35	6:55	7:15	6:45	7:09	7:36	7:58	9:28	9:51	9:40	10:01	6:05	6:26	4/2
SUN.	6:53	7:20	7:40	8:00	7:30	7:51	8:22	8:42	10:17	10:36	10:25	10:45	6:51	7:13	4/3
MON.	7:40	8:06	8:23	8:46	8:16	8:35	9:10	9:29	11:03	11:21	11:11	11:30	7:39	7:59	4/4
TUE.	8:27	8:53	9:11	9:33	9:03	9:26	9:58	10:16	11:51	—	11:59	—	8:25	8:47	4/5
WED.	9:18	9:44	9:58	10:22	9:57	10:19	10:49	11:07	12:09	12:39	12:18	12:47	9:15	9:37	4/6
THUR.	10:11	10:37	10:49	11:16	10:56	11:17	11:43	—	12:58	1:28	1:06	1:40	10:06	10:30	4/7

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES:

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet.....—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide , add 6 ½hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	—0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	—0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	—0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	—0 12
Seaside Park	—0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	—0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	—0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	—0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	—0 02
Rehoboth Beach	—0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	—0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	—0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	—0 38
Democrat Point	—0 38
Coast Guard Station	—0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	—0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	—0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	—0 08
Herod Point	—0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	—0 20
Truman Beach	—0 42
Falkner Island	—0 13
Sachem Head	—0 10
Branford Harbor	—0 07
New Haven Harbor	—0 08
Milford Harbor	—0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	—0 03
Saugatuck River	—0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	—0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	—0 14
Montauk Inlet	—0 25
Montauk Point	—1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	—0 33
Noank, Mystic River	—0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	—0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	—0 10
Execution Light	—0 06
Manhasset Bay	—0 01
Hempstead Harbor	—0 11
City Island	—0 03
Rye Beach	—0 28
Port Chester	—0 09
Mamaroneck	—0 08
New Rochelle	—0 24
Davids Island	—0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	—0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	—0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	—0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	—0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	—0 08
Point Judith Harbor	—0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	—0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

4/1	5:43	6:25
4/6	5:35	6:31
4/11	5:27	6:36
4/16	5:19	6:42
4/21	5:11	6:48
4/26	5:03	6:53

PHASES OF THE MOON

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
4/18	4/26	4/4	4/10

The Original Knight
SOLUNAR TABLES
When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM Minor	AM **Major**	PM Minor	PM **Major**
THURS.	1:00	**7:35**	1:40	**8:00**
FRI.	1:45	**8:20**	2:15	**8:50**
SAT.	2:30	**9:10**	3:05	**9:35**
SUN.	3:20	**10:00**	3:50	**10:25**
MON.	4:10	**10:50**	4:40	**11:15**
TUES.	5:00	**11:50**	5:30	—
WED.	6:00	**12:25**	6:35	**12:55**
THURS.	7:10	**1:30**	7:40	**2:00**

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